

HOUSE BILL 233

By Whitson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,
relative to animal fighting paraphernalia.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-203(a), is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision (6):

(6) Possess, own, buy, sell, transfer, or manufacture animal fighting paraphernalia with the intent that the paraphernalia be used in promoting, facilitating, training for, or furthering animal fighting or baiting.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-203, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

() For purposes of this section, "animal fighting paraphernalia" means equipment, products, implements, and materials of any kind that are used, intended for use, or designed for use in the training, preparation, conditioning, or furtherance of animal fighting, including, but not limited to, breaking sticks, cat mills, jennies, treadmills, fighting pits, spring poles, jump poles, flirt poles, unprescribed veterinary medicine, gaffs, slashers, heels, or any other sharp implement designed to be attached in place of the natural spur of a cock or game fowl.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-203(d)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting instead the following:

(1) A violation of subdivision (a)(4) or (a)(6) is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it.